CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: Midsommar (Director's Cut)

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1900480.000

Medium: Film

Distributor: Roadshow Film Distributors

Director: Ari Aster

FVLB Applicant: Roadshow Film Distributors

Producer: Patrik Andersson

Lars Knudsen

Country of origin: United States, Sweden, Hungary

Language: English, Swedish

Applicant: Film & Video Labelling Body

Classification: Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: Graphic violence, sex scenes, drug use and suicide

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 11 October 2019

Date of direction to issue

No direction to issue a label has been issued

a label:

Date of notice of decision: No notice of decision has been issued

	Components	Running time
Feature(s):	Midsommar (Director's Cut)	170:03
Total running time:		170:03

Summary of reasons for decision:

Midsommar is a Swedish-American horror film. The film follows a couple who travel to Sweden to visit their friend's rural hometown for its fabled midsummer festival, but what begins as an idyllic retreat quickly devolves into an increasingly violent and bizarre competition at the hands of a pagan cult. The previously classified version of Midsommar (OFLC ref: 1900387) was classified R18 for graphic violence, sex scenes, drug use and suicide. The decision was registered on 25 July 2019. For the director's cut, an additional 24 minutes of footage was added. The extra footage is a mixture of extended scenes and subplots that do not change the meaning of the film but rather highlight the characters, their motivations, and their relationships more deeply. There is nothing in the additional material that requires an alteration to be made to either the classification or descriptive note given to the previously classified version. This classification is a limitation on the right to freedom of expression as laid out in the NZ Bill of Rights Act 1990 but is a reasonable limit on that right in order to prevent injury to the public good.